

BLM LIBRARY



88079955



Bureau of Land Management
in
WYOMING

A Report to the Public

HD
243
.W8
B874
2000

The Bureau of LAND MANAGEMENT

Wild & Free

Fish and Wildlife Habitat

- 18,273,036 acres big game habitat
- 18,388,670 acres small game habitat
- 94,756 waterfowl acres
- 5,058 miles riparian habitat
- 17,611 acres wetland habitat
- 2,752 miles of fishable streams
- 9.9 million acres managed through habitat management plans
- 44 wetland/riparian habitat improvement projects built; 112 projects maintained
- 1,140,500 acres of upland wildlife habitat inventoried
- 27,450 acres of terrestrial wildlife habitat enhanced with habitat projects
- 13 terrestrial habitat projects were maintained
- 1,430,000 acres of terrestrial wildlife were monitored for animal use

Threatened and Endangered Species in Wyoming

- 3 threatened and 2 endangered mammals
- 1 threatened and 1 endangered bird
- 1 endangered amphibian
- 5 endangered fish
- 1 threatened and 1 endangered plant species
- 1 proposed threatened animal species
- 1 proposed threatened bird species
- 2 candidate mammal species
- 1 candidate amphibian species
- 2 candidate fish species
- 2 proposed threatened plant species
- 2 petitioned mammal species
- 3 petitioned bird species
- 5 petitioned fish species
- 29 draft BLM sensitive plants
- 18 draft BLM watch plants

Wild Horses

- 702 horses gathered
- 7,615 horses remaining on the range
- 3,163 appropriate management level
- 477 horses adopted
- 255 adoption compliance checks
- 1 repossession

Wilderness

- 577,504 acres in 42 areas studied under the Wyoming Wilderness Review
- 240,364 acres in 21 areas recommended for wilderness designation
- 337,140 acres are not recommended for wilderness designation

BLM Library
Denver Federal Center
Bldg. 50, OC-521
P.O. Box 25047
Denver, CO 80225

On the Landscape

Rangeland Management

- 18,120,000 acres of public rangeland
- 4,147 grazing operators
- 3,369 cattle operators
- 398 sheep operators
- 380 horse operators
- 1,603,094 AUMs authorized
- 1,339,960 AUMs cattle authorized
- 249,896 AUMs sheep authorized
- 13,238 AUMs horses authorized
- 394,304 AUMs of authorized nonuse
- 335 allotments under AMPs

Forestry

- 210,000 acres commercial forestland
- 211,000 acres woodland (noncommercial)
- 444,000 board feet sold for \$34,213
- 800 board feet sold through negotiated sales for \$320
- 680 public use authorizations valued at \$33,078 for 1,192 cords of fuelwood, 8,162 posts and poles, 1,137 Christmas trees and wildlings, and 1,100 pounds of seeds

Forest Development

- 115 acres pre-commercially thinned
- 200 acres hazard fuels removed
- 60 acres fenced for improved stand regeneration

Range Improvements

- 108 miles of fence constructed; 5 miles maintained
- 27 miles of pipeline installed; 45 miles maintained
- 44 water developments completed; 29 repaired
- 15,212 acres of weed control
- 19 cattle guards installed
- 9 erosion control structures
- 5,057 acres vegetative treatment
- 25 gates installed

Noxious Weed Management

- 4 cooperative weed management areas continued to be developed with state agencies and private landowners
- Expanded cooperative agreements with counties for chemical, biological and mechanical control of weeds
- Initiated a project with the University of Wyoming to develop a software-based predictive model for noxious weed spread
- Continued to develop a project with the University of Wyoming to collect weed inventory data from the field offices and provide accessibility to the data via a University web page. In the coming year there will be links to this data on various BLM web pages.
- 18,000 acres of BLM administered land was inventoried for noxious weeds
- Actively participated as a Wyoming State Weed Team member to develop statewide strategies for invasive species control.

..... a Report to the

PUBLIC

Underground Activities

Minerals, Leasable - Coal

- 334 million tons of coal produced; 95 percent from the Powder River Basin
- 97 percent of Wyoming's coal was used for electrical generation
- 46 producing Federal coal leases on 118,889 acres
- \$193,451,263 in Federal royalties; \$80,728,178 to the State of Wyoming
- Antelope Coal Company purchased the Horse Creek LBA comprising 2,818.695 acres and an estimated 275.6 million tons of minable coal. Their bonus bid was \$91,220,120.70 which is \$32,362.54 per acre, or 33.1 cents per ton of coal.
- BLM and EOG Resources, Inc., completed a coal lease exchange. The coal lease covered 599 acres with about 106 million tons of Federal coal. The BLM acquired about 4,500 acres of leased coal in Johnson County.
- 8 Leases by Application (LBAs) are being processed:
 - Belle Ayr 2000 (Belle Ayr) has 243.61 acres with 29 million tons
 - North Jacobs Ranch (Jacobs Ranch Coal Company) has 4,821.19 acres with an estimated 519 million tons
 - NARO (Powder River Coal Company) has 4,501 acres with 564 million tons
 - Little Thunder Creek (ARK Land Company - Arch Coal) has 2,709.5 acres with 383.6 million tons
 - West Roundup (Triton Coal North Rochelle) has 1,868.12 acres with 173 million tons
 - North Hay Creek (Triton Coal Buckskin) has 933.03 acres with 135 million tons
 - West Antelope (Antelope Coal Company) has 3,500.84 acres with 292.5 million tons
 - Belle Ayr (Belle Ayr) has 1,335.39 acres with 171 million tons

Minerals, Leasable - Trona

- 5 underground trona operations in Wyoming produced 18,420,480 tons
- \$13,797,978 in Federal royalties were paid on 5,899,101 tons extracted from Federal leases.

Minerals, Oil and Gas

- 20,499 Federal leases cover 14,278,130 acres
- 36,995,847 barrels of oil and 595,382,747 cubic feet of gas generated \$189,125,670 in Federal oil and gas royalties; half went to the State of Wyoming (calendar year 1999)
- 1,241 parcels offered, 1,049,643 acres in 1,086 parcels leased, with bonus bids amounting to \$28,149,902 in bimonthly competitive oral bid lease sales; half went to the State of Wyoming. The highest per acre bid for a single parcel was \$580.
- 229 noncompetitive leases were issued on 82,947 acres
- 1,723 permits to drill approved versus 653 permits a year earlier
- 51 active rigs compared to 41 a year earlier
- 537 exploratory/secondary unit agreements
- 1,355 communitization agreements

Minerals - Bentonite and Uranium

- 2 non-producing bentonite leases

Minerals, Salable

- 63 sales of sand, stone, gravel, scoria, pumice, cinders and clay earned \$519,262 on 935,004 cubic yards of mineral material
- 20 authorizations under the free use permits for local governments and nonprofit groups provided 31,692 cubic yards of material valued at \$30,817
- 39 community pit and common use area sales earned \$33,408 on 45,736 yards of material

Minerals, Locatable

- 2,111 new claims recorded
- 696 claims closed
- 14,636 claim maintenance fees processed at \$100 per claim
- \$1,552,605 in fees received for mining claim recordation and maintenance
- 697 claims covered by 146 small miner waivers
- 15,333 active claims on record for all mineral commodities
- 257,191 active and closed unpatented mining claims on record
- 28 Notices of Intent to Locate filed on Stockraising Homestead Act land
- 17 mineral patent applications closed through contest or withdrawal
- 2 "excess reserve or too much" bentonite studies completed and used in mineral reports

Support Functions

Sign Program

- 4,508 signs constructed for 52 BLM offices throughout the country

Cadastral Survey

- 316 miles of survey and 480 monuments set to support public land management
- 23 miles of survey and 17 monuments set to support the Bureau of Indian Affairs
- 6 miles of survey and 25 monuments set to support the U.S. Forest Service
- 7 miles of survey and 5 monuments set to support the U.S. Park Service
- 787 miles of survey on 23 plats reviewed and approved
- 20,000 copies of survey plats field notes provided

Geographic Coordinate Data Base

- Provided GCDB data for 140,000 townships to 153 users

Volunteer Program

- 584 volunteers contributed 20,551 hours valued at \$304,773

Fire Management

- 150 wildfires burned over 100,000 acres
- 19 prescribed burns totalling 6,645 acres were completed on public lands to support forestry site preparation and rangeland and wildlife habitat improvement

2000 WYOMING

Looking Back

Construction/Maintenance/Engineering

- 67 buildings/yard facilities maintained
- 65 major recreation sites maintained
- 867 miles of BLM road maintained
- 9 major dams inspected
- 20 bridges and major culverts inspected
- 73 condition surveys of recreation and administrative sites conducted
- 35 miles of trails maintained
- Began design on a new Field Office building in Rock Springs
- Began construction on the National Historic Trails Center in Casper, completion scheduled for September 2001

Law Enforcement

- Ongoing investigations into violations of selling wild horses prior to Transfer of Title and possible abuse cases
- Several convictions for violation of private maintenance and care agreements with restitution to the wild horse program
- Provided on the ground security at adoptions and gathers
- Ongoing investigation into damage of archaeological sites
- Ongoing investigation into illegal guiding operations
- Issued numerous violation notices for resource violations, assisted in search and rescue operations and assisted local law enforcement when requested
- Provided security on wild fires in Wyoming and out of state

Geographic Information System/Mapping Science

- Maintained a complete Landsat Thematic Mapper (TM) and elevation coverages for Wyoming
- Assisted in the GIS analytical, mapping support and image processing for Hydrologic Unit Boundary mapping
- Provided training on the use of aerial photography to determine proper functioning condition
- 517 oil and gas files produced for consolidation with automated master title plats
- 784 master title plats completed
- Provided drawings and maps for 70 engineering contracts
- 2 - 100k maps edited and revised for automation
- Provided GIS analytic, mapping, and presentation support for Jack Morrow Hills Coordinated Activity Plan, the Sage Grouse Habitat Team, and Snake River Resource Management Plan public meetings
- 9 dependent resurveys completed
- 4,241 minerals notations to the plats
- 875 lands notations to the plats
- 177 mylar plats retired in 91 townships and ranges

Easement Acquisition

- 10 public access easements for roads and range improvements acquired

Global Positioning System (GPS)

- 91,000 acres in Southwest Wyoming mapped in support of wildland fire suppression and Burn Area Emergency Rehabilitation
- 26 geodetic reference stations established in cooperation with the National Geodetic Survey and the private sector
- Continuously Operating Reference Station established in Casper to support survey level GPS users

National Historic Trails

- 5 congressionally designated National Historic Trails: Oregon, California, Mormon Pioneer, Pony Express, and Nez Perce
- 4 National Historic Trails have over 60% of the mileage (over 340 miles per trail) in the state under BLM stewardship: Oregon, California, Mormon Pioneer, and Pony Express
- Wyoming contains some of the best intact trail remains left in the country along the 2,000 mile national historic trail corridor. Some of the major sites include: Devil's Gate, Split Rock, South Pass, Parting-of-the-Ways, Bessemer Bend, Martin's Cove, and Lombard Ferry.
- Wyoming BLM has a stake in managing regionally significant historic trails including the Cheyenne to Deadwood Stage Route, Overland, Bozeman, Cherokee, and Bridger trails.
- National Historic Trails Center under construction in Casper.

Cultural and Paleontology Resources

- 228,973 acres surveyed at the Class III level (intensive inventory)
- 2,281 actions occurring on BLM administered lands
- 2,597 cultural properties recorded
- 558 properties determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- 2,459 properties avoided
- 88 cultural resource use permits in effect during the year
- 115 public presentations on archaeology and historic preservation presented to over 6,000 people
- 16 professional conference presentations and/or articles published in professional journals
- 70 face to face consultation meetings between BLM and representatives and governments of Federally and non-Federally recognized Indian tribes
- 15 documented violations of a Federal law or statute protecting archaeological properties
- Completed mapping the Red Gulch Dinosaur Tracksite under a cooperative agreement with multiple partners

User Facilities

Recreation

- 2,902 acres developed into 43 recreation sites
- 151 picnic units
- 252 camping units
- 10 fee campgrounds located in 6 Field Offices
- 5 national historic trails
- 1 national scenic trail
- 1 national recreation trail
- 5 other historic trails
- 2 interpretive trails
- 282,154 acres designated open to OHV use
- 334,994 acres designated closed to OHV use
- 18,063,860 acres designated limited for OHV use
- 3 national back country byways
- 32 caves
- 10 Recreation Fee Demonstration Program project areas
- 2,284,568 recreation visitor use days statewide
- 1,267 Recreation Use Permits issued
- \$73,494.47 Recreation Permit Fee revenues collected

Environmental Concerns

Hazardous Materials Management

- 6 hazmat events responded to and cleaned up
- Installed monitor wells at a potential hazardous materials dump north of Rawlins
- Provided hazmat refresher training for all hazmat coordinators statewide
- Completed a site investigation for contaminants on the Rawlins landfill in coordination with DEQ, EPA and the City of Rawlins
- Completed follow-up CASHE audits (internal environmental audit program) at the Lander and Rawlins Field Offices
- Provided hazmat awareness training for BLM employees at various field offices
- Consulted with the Washakie County Solid Waste Disposal District and DEQ to install an additional monitor well adjacent to the Worland Landfill

Soils Resources Program

- 17,100,000 acres of public land surveyed for soil characteristics

Air Quality

- 3 acid rain deposition monitoring stations were operated as part of a cooperative national network
- Participated in the Southwest Wyoming Technical Air Form (SWWYTAF) efforts in the development of meteorological and emissions data bases and an air impact analysis model to be completed in early 2001.
- Operated Wyoming Air Resources Monitoring Stations in Centennial, Buffalo, Sheridan, Newcastle, and Pinedale, collecting data to be compared with established monitoring networks.

Water Resources Program

- 13 water rights were filed to ensure adequate water is available to support uses on public lands
- Comprehensive stream gaging and water quality monitoring activities were continued in the Muddy Creek and Sage Creek watersheds to assess the effectiveness of BLM management activities in improving water quality
- Continued several hydrology studies in the Powder River Basin region to characterize potential surface and groundwater conditions that may be associated with energy development
- Participated in a cooperative project with DEQ, University of Wyoming, and other agencies to map sub-watersheds statewide so that a standard spatial database is available for water resource and watershed management
- Participated with the State Abandoned Mine Lands Division to address water quality and watershed reclamation needs on four separate projects in the western half of the state

Planning & Actions

Land Use Planning and Environmental Coordination

- Major environmental analyses were completed for:
Continental Divide/Wamsutter II Natural Gas Project, South Baggs Natural Gas Project, Lost Creek Natural Gas Gathering System Project, Pioneer Pipeline Project, Wyodak Coal Bed Methane Project, Lower Prairie Dog Coal Bed Methane Development Project, Newcastle Resource Management Plan, Management for Bureau of Reclamation Withdrawn Lands Restored to BLM Jurisdiction in the Cody Field Office Planning Area, Pinedale Anticline Oil and Gas Exploration and Development Project, Horse Creek Federal Coal Lease Application, North Jacobs Ranch Federal Coal Lease Application, Belle Ayr Federal Coal Lease Application, Jonah Field Natural Gas Project Modification, Vermillion Basin Natural Gas Project, Infinity Coalbed Methane Project, Pinedale Resource Management Plan amendment, Pinedale Resource Management Plan evaluation, Snake River Resource Management Plan, Bench Corral Coordinated Activity Plan, New Fork/Green River recreation plan, Hoback Rim fuels reduction plan, and the Wild and Scenic River review.
- Major environmental analyses are underway for:
Desolation Flats Natural Gas Project, Atlantic Rim Coalbed Methane Project, Seminole Road Coalbed Methane Pilot Project, Wyodak Drainage Environmental Analysis, Powder River Basin Oil and Gas Environmental Impact Statement, Whoopup Canyon Area of Critical Environmental Concern, Stateline Recreation Area Management Plan, Jack Morrow Hills Coordinated Activity Plan, FMC Haul Road, Wind Partners Wind Energy Project, Spring Wild Horse Gathering, PP&L Land Exchange Project, Condor Oil/Gas Exploration Project, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Exchange, Radosevich Land Exchange, Riley Ridge Exxon Environmental Impact Statement, Infinity Coalbed Methane Environmental Impact Statement, Soapstone Basin Oil and Gas Environmental Impact Statement.
- Resource Management Plan Evaluations were conducted on: Platte River, Buffalo, Nebraska, and Newcastle.
- Posted the NEPA log to the BLM Wyoming web site at www.wy.blm.gov

Lands

- 93.84 acres in 3 parcels sold for \$20,950
- 622 rights-of-way and amendments issued, 27 renewed
- 24,710 acres of public land exchanged for 4,140 acres of private land
- 360 acres in 3 Recreation & Public Purposes Act actions patented
- 22 permits/leases issued, 17 renewed
- 43 patents issued for Bureau of Indian Affairs
- No corrective patents issued



Economic Impacts

BLM Wyoming salaries by community

Buffalo	\$1,958,611
Casper	\$4,304,643
Cheyenne	\$12,474,068
Cody	\$1,107,922
Gillette	\$128,209
Kemmerer	\$1,421,588
Lander	\$1,863,674
Newcastle	\$926,905
Pinedale	\$1,236,273
Rawlins	\$4,851,768
Rock Springs	\$4,523,191
Worland	\$4,686,019
Total Salaries	\$39,482,871
Total Funding	\$48,954,000

2000 PILT Payments

County	Payment	County	Payment
Albany	\$434,907	Niobrara	98,496
Big Horn	367,212	Park	646,025
Campbell	266,528	Platte	83,681
Carbon	330,724	Sheridan	317,399
Converse	254,390	Sublette	256,483
Crook	35,348	Sweetwater	949,649
Fremont	866,146	Teton	377,771
Goshen	21,541	Uinta	443,216
Hot Springs	247,388	Washakie	358,946
Johnson	299,137	Weston	185,529
Laramie	7,689		
Lincoln	418,646		
Natrona	1,051,259	Total	\$8,318,110



Bureau of Land Management

WYOMING

*Respecting the past . . .
Serving the future*



AN ANNUAL REPORT



PUBLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**Bureau of Land Management
Wyoming State Office**

P.O. Box 1828
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003-1828
(307) 775-6256
www.wy.blm.gov

**BLM Library
Denver Federal Center
Bldg. 50, OC-521
P.O. Box 25047
Denver, CO 80225**